



ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: H0535/7009 (ERG/MAT)

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3/15/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Howard Green et al.
Serial No: 09/359,920
Filed: July 22, 1999
For: TRANSGLUTAMINASE LINKAGE OF AGENTS TO TISSUE
Examiner: D. Naff
Group Art Unit: 1617

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 5, 2001.

Edward R. Gates
Edward R. Gates

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Office Action (Paper Number 9) mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on October 3, 2000. A two month extension of time is respectfully requested and the appropriate fee is submitted concurrently herewith.

In the Specification:

Please re-write the two paragraphs beginning on page 1, line 16 as follows:

Transglutaminases are a family of calcium-dependent enzymes mediating covalent cross-linking reactions between specific peptide bound γ -glutamyl residues and various primary amino groups of peptide-bound lysines or polyamines, acting as amine donor substrates (Davies, et al., *Adv. Exp. Med. Biol.* 250, 391-401, 1988). These enzymes stabilize biological structures via the formation of isopeptide cross-links. In mammals, at least five enzymatically active transglutaminases have been identified, cloned and sequenced. The number of proteins acting as glutaminy substrates for transglutaminases is restricted, and no obvious consensus sequence around these substrates' glutamines has been found.

Three main lines of investigation have been conducted surrounding transglutaminases. These enzymes have been used to label membrane proteins and, in the absence of exogenous amines, to catalyze the formation of (γ -glutamyl)-lysyl cross-links between them. The labeling is quite specific and can be carried out under mild (physiological) reaction conditions. Thus, for example, transglutaminases were



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Transmitted herewith are the following document(s):

[X] Amendment
[X] Checks for \$55.00 and \$140.00
[X] Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617)720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

Checks in the amounts of \$55.00 and \$140.00 are enclosed to cover the cost of a two month extension of time. If any further fee is determined to be due, particularly for additional claims, the Examiner is authorized to charge said fee to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.

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DATE: March 5, 2001
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